

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04978 280914Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 SES-02 SMS-01 IO-14 PM-05

SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 EUR-12 /094 W

-----124257 280919Z /20

O 280800Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9409

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 4978

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPON, APER

SUBJECT: BEIRUT PRESS REPORT ON AMBASSADOR PARKER'S TRANSFER

1. IN FRONT PAGE ARTICLE AUGUST 27, L'ORIENT-LE JOUR, THE PRINCIPAL FRENCH-LANGUAGE DAILY, CARRIED A HEADLINE, "AMBASSADOR PARKER TRANSFERRED TO MOROCCO". THE LEAD PARAGRAPH READ, "FROM AN AUTHORIZED SOURCE, IT WAS LEARNED THAT MR. RICHARD PARKER, THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES, HAS JUST BEEN TRANSFERRED TO RABAT. THE NAME OF HIS REPLACEMENT IN BEIRUT HAS NOT YET BEEN DIVULGED. MR. PARKER, WHO HAS ONLY BEEN EN POSTE IN LEBANON SINCE FEBRUARY 15, 1977, HAS RECENTLY BEEN THE OBJECT OF CRITICISM ON THE PART OF SEVERAL LEADERS INCLUDING THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. FOUAD BOUTROS WHO APPROACHED HIM FOR HAVING ADVANCED VIEWS "LACKING IN REALISM" ON THE PROBLEM OF THE SOUTH. FROM ANOTHER QUARTER, IT IS RECALLED THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT HESITATE TO SAY, ON THE SAME OBJECT, THAT "THE AMERICANS LET US DOWN".

2. THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT LANE, MOLINEAUX, AND BADOLATO HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS AND THAT SUCH MASS TRANSFERS COULD INDICATE THAT US POLICY TOWARDS LEBANON HAS CHANGED.

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3. L'ORIENT-LE JOUR REITERATED THE STORY, AGAIN WITHOUT A DATE-LINE, ON AUGUST 28, STATING THAT "AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN SOURCE HAS CONFIRMED THE TRANSFER".

4. SO FAR, ONLY ARABIC LANGUAGE PAPER TO CARRY STORY HAS BEEN SAFIR, WHICH ON AUGUST 27 REPORTED AMBASSADOR PARKER IS BEING

TRANSFERRED AND ON AUGUST 28 AGAIN WITHOUT DATELINES REPORTED HIS
NEW POST WOULD BE RABAT. LATTER ARTICLE ALLEGED REASON FOR
TRANSFER WAS AMBASSADOR'S "FAILURE TO ACHIEVE HIS MISSION OF
HELPING CALM DOWN SITUATION IN LEBANON AND UPPORT ITS LEGAL
AUTHORITY" (SIC). SAFIR CONTINUES THAT AMBASSADOR'S REPORTS TO
DEPARTMENT WERE "NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE LINE OF ACTION
ESTABLISHED FOR HIM", ETC. NAHAR HAS SO FAR NOT CARRIED THE
REPORT.
KINSOLVING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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